

280 BC

Roman armies first encountered a Hellenistic army (Phalanx) in 280 BC when King PYRRHUS of Epirus joined the city of Tarentum in its war with Rome

280-275 BC

War with Pyrrhus, who had  
been hired by the Tarantines to  
fight Rome.

280 BC

Romans first came face to face  
with a modern Hellenistic army  
when in 280 BC Pyrrhus came  
to the aid of the Greek city of  
TARENTUM in Southern Italy